

November 9, 1950

Dr. G. Seger
Project Review Officer
Division of Research Grants and Fellowships
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda 14, Maryland

Dear Dr. Seger:

Thank you for your letter of November 6, 1950, and for your advice in the interest of our research program.

The application for research support, "Genetics of Bacteria" was made at what we would both admit to be an early date, in anticipation of difficulties which are likely to arise if the application is reviewed later. Review in May or June implies that even preliminary approval (or disapproval) cannot be given before early July. It is extremely difficult to find suitable personnel for employment in the Fall at this late date. Recognizing that final approval of funds might have to wait for congressional appropriation, I hoped that the judgment of the advisory board would be worth seeking at an early date.

I do not wish to persist in this application if it involves a conflict with your review policies. If necessary, I will be glad to advance the beginning date of the grant application so that it will cover the period June 1, 1951 - May 31, 1952. Preferably, I would like to submit the present application for review at the next meeting of the advisory board, if there is any likelihood that the board can render a judgment that will be useful in planning our personnel situation. But, thirdly, I will be pleased to withdraw this application for resubmittal later if, in your judgment, there is insufficient justification for presenting it now.

Pending your reply, I am retaining the application as returned.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Associate Professor of Genetics

JL:ps